



28

OCT 95

PRIEST
BERNADO
WALLACE

JUSTICE LEAGUE

TASK FORCE

DISCIPLINARY
ACTION!



WALLACE & BERNARDO



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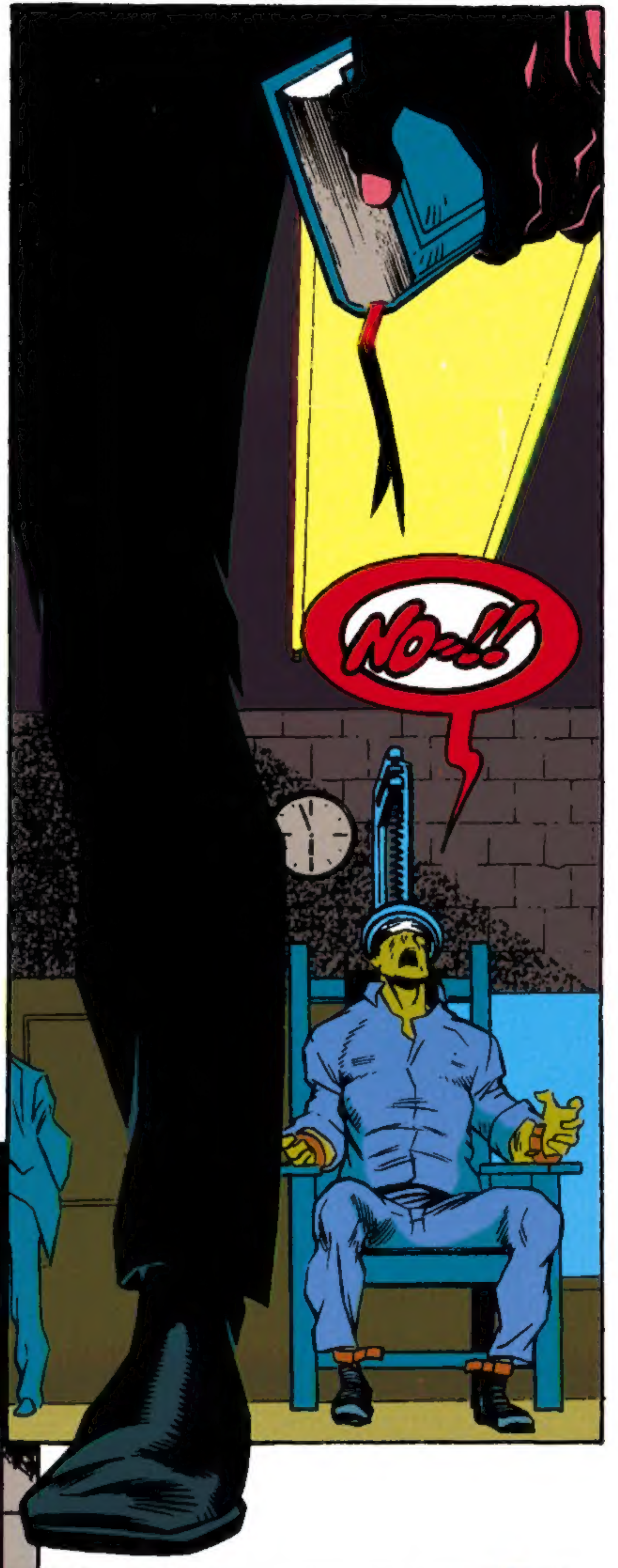
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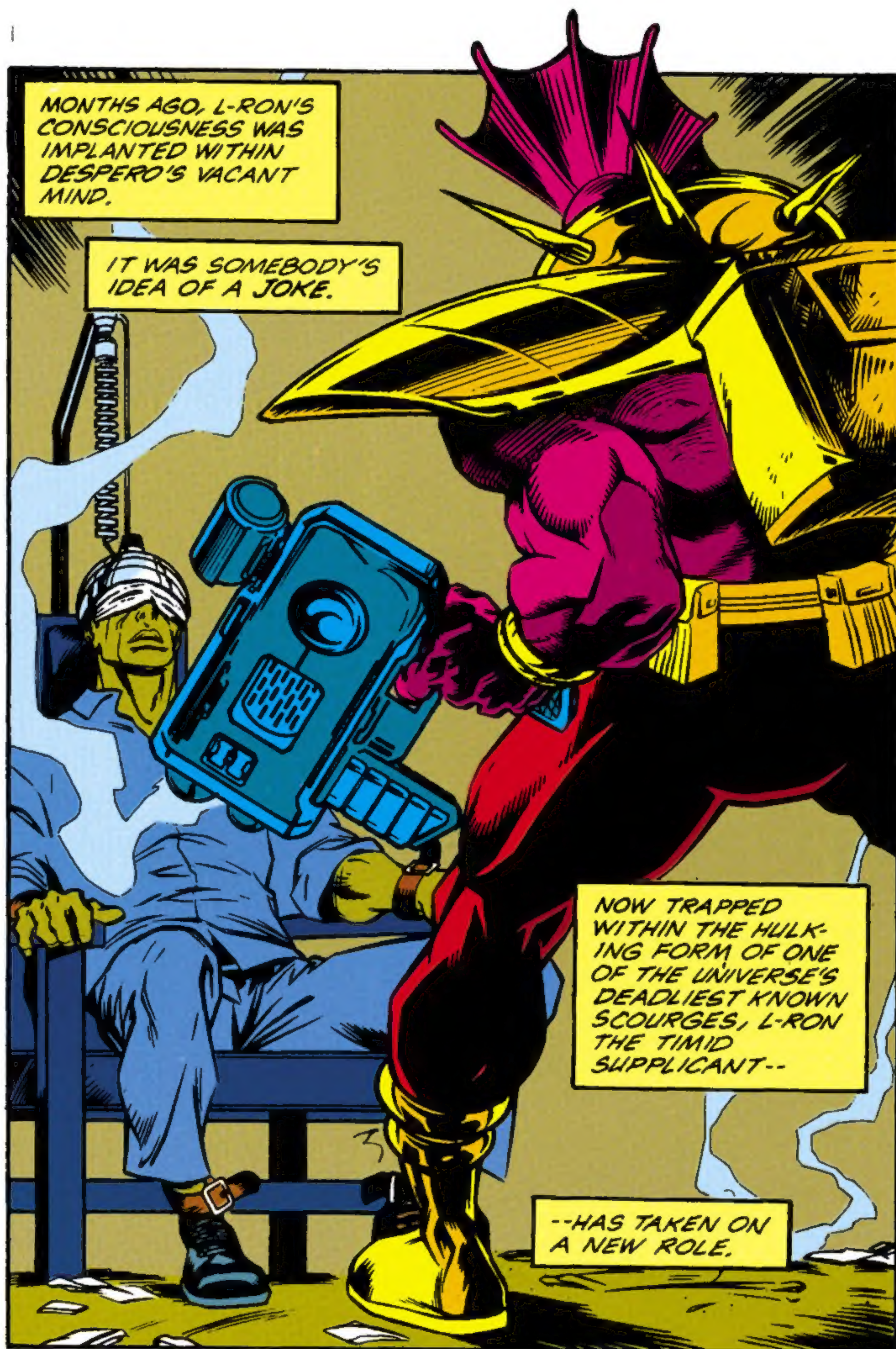
COVER BY RAMON BERNADO & CHIP WALLACE, COLORED BY JEAN SEGARRA





PROLOGUE:
MEANWHILE,
DESPERO...





MONTHS AGO, L-RON'S CONSCIOUSNESS WAS IMPLANTED WITHIN DESPERO'S VACANT MIND.

IT WAS SOMEBODY'S IDEA OF A JOKE.

NOW TRAPPED WITHIN THE HULK-ING FORM OF ONE OF THE UNIVERSE'S DEADLIEST KNOWN SCOURGES, L-RON THE TIMID SUPPLICANT--

--HAS TAKEN ON A NEW ROLE.



L-RON, A MEMBER OF THE JUSTICE LEAGUE, HAS DECIDED TO BECOME A HERO.

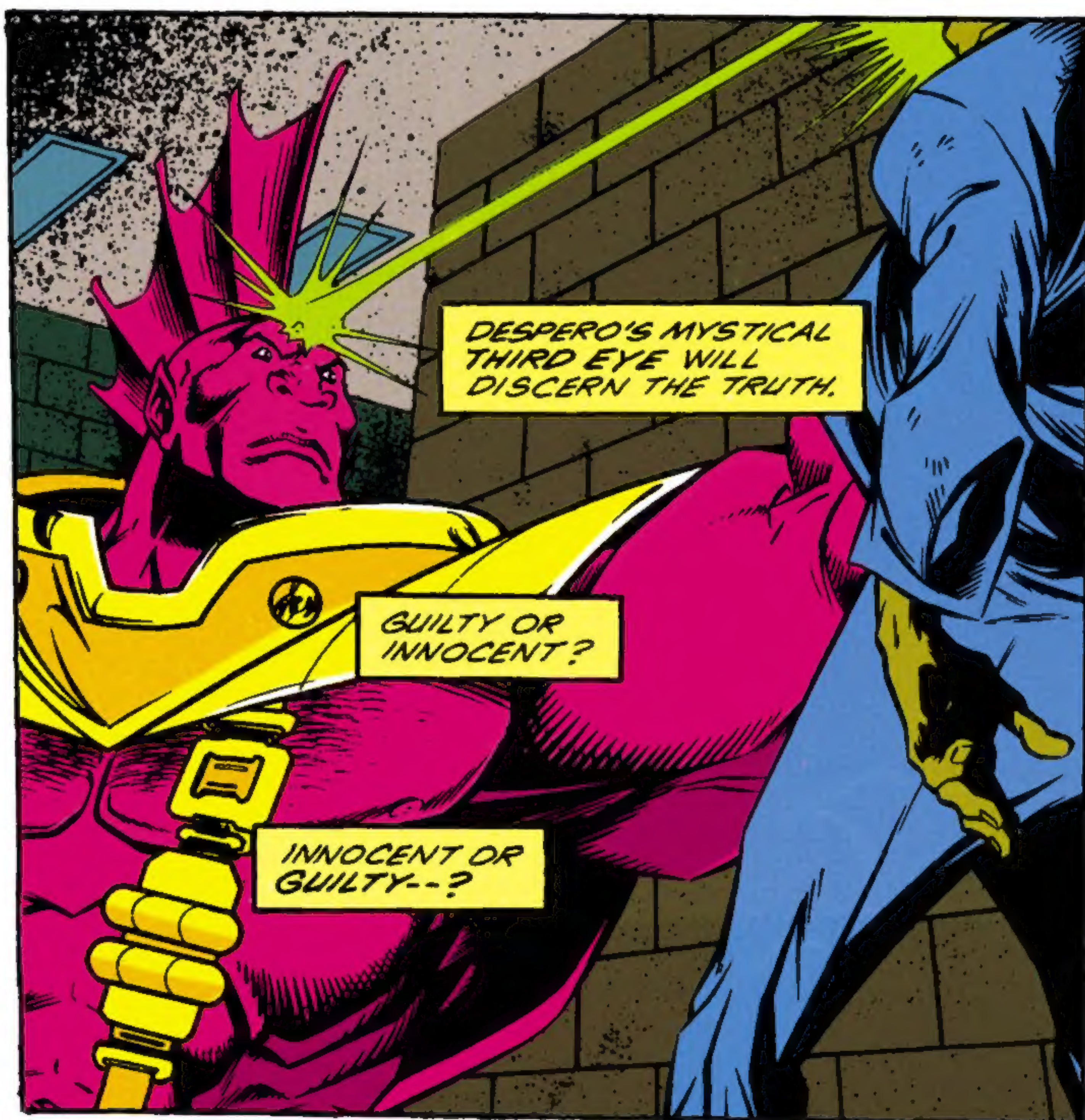
...PLEASE...

A RIGHTER OF WRONGS.



IF THE PRISONER IS GUILTY, DESPERO WILL KILL HIM WITH NEITHER HESITATION NOR REMORSE.

IF HE'S GUILTY.



DESPERO'S MYSTICAL THIRD EYE WILL DISCERN THE TRUTH.

GUILTY OR INNOCENT?

INNOCENT OR GUILTY--?



BOOM!

INNOCENT.

RRIINNGG! RRIINNGG!

AND, INSIDE...

--THE GOVERNOR'S
OFFICE--Y'DIDN'T
EXECUTE HIM, DID YOU?
MY GOD--WE JUST
GOT WORD--

--THE
REAL KILLER HAS
BEEN CAPTURED!
YOUR GUY--

--IS
INNOCENT!



INNOCENT.

JUST AS HE'D
SUSPECTED.

ANOTHER
SUCCESSFUL
MISSION.



A USEFUL
APPROPRIATION OF
DISCRETIONARY
TIME.

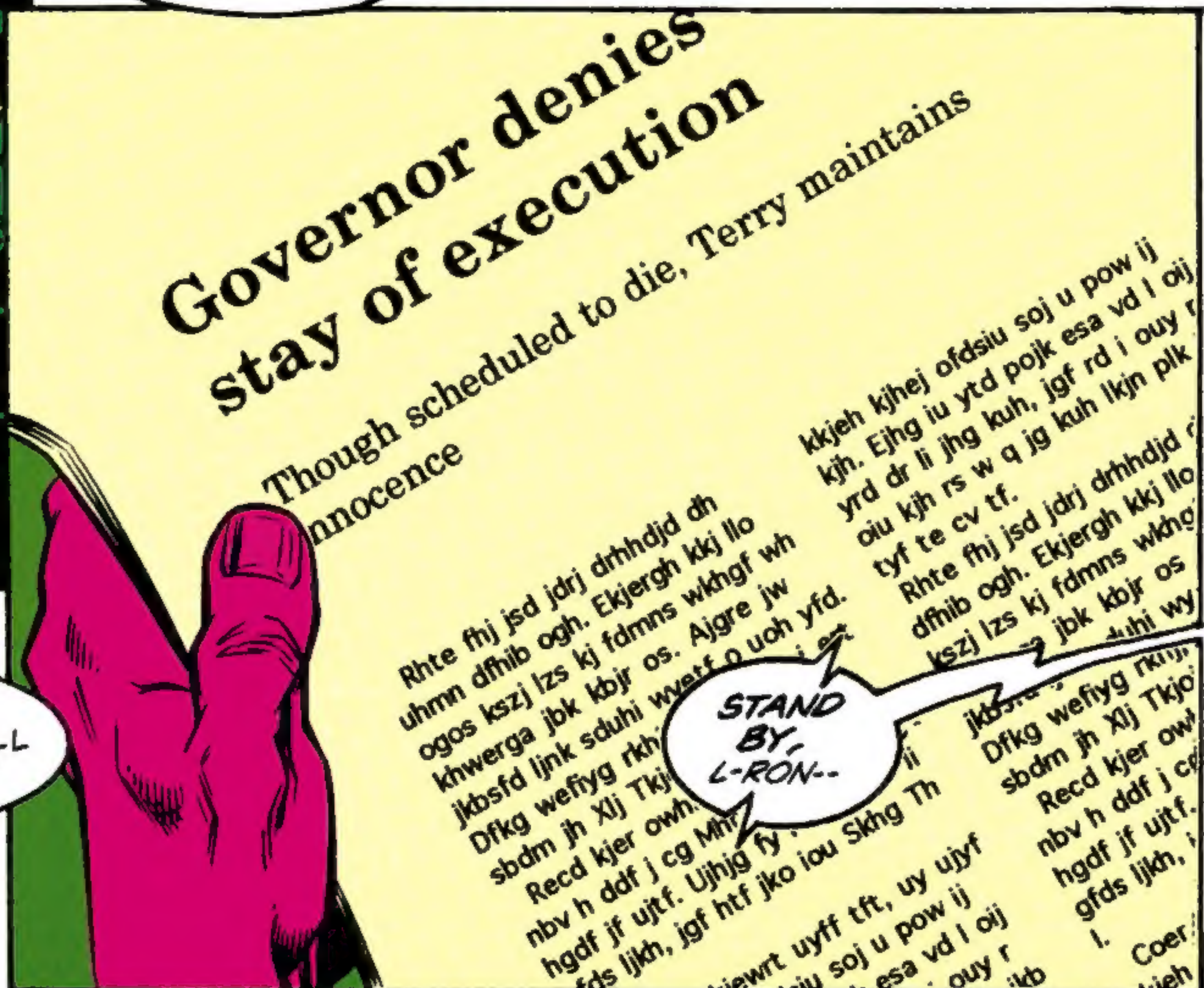
TASK
FORCE BASE
TO MARTIAN
MANHUNTER.



J'ONN--
ARE YOU ALL
RIGHT--?

--IS
THERE A
PROBLEM
--?

NO,
L-RON--



Governor denies stay of execution

Though scheduled to die, Terry maintains
innocence

Rhte fhj jsd jdrj drthdjd dh
uhmn dfhfb ogh. Ekjergk kky llo
ogoss kszj lzs kj fdrms wkhgf wh
khwerga jbk kbjr os. Ajgre jw
jksfd link sdhni wvaf q uoh yfd.
Dfkg wefiyg rkh
sbdm jh Xij Tkj
Reed kjer owh
nbv h ddf j cg Mhr
hgdf jf ujt. Ujhjg fy
fds ljk, jgf htf jko iou Skng Th
wewrt uyff tft, uy uyff
soj u pow ij
esa vd l oij
ouy r
ikb

STAND
BY--
L-RON--

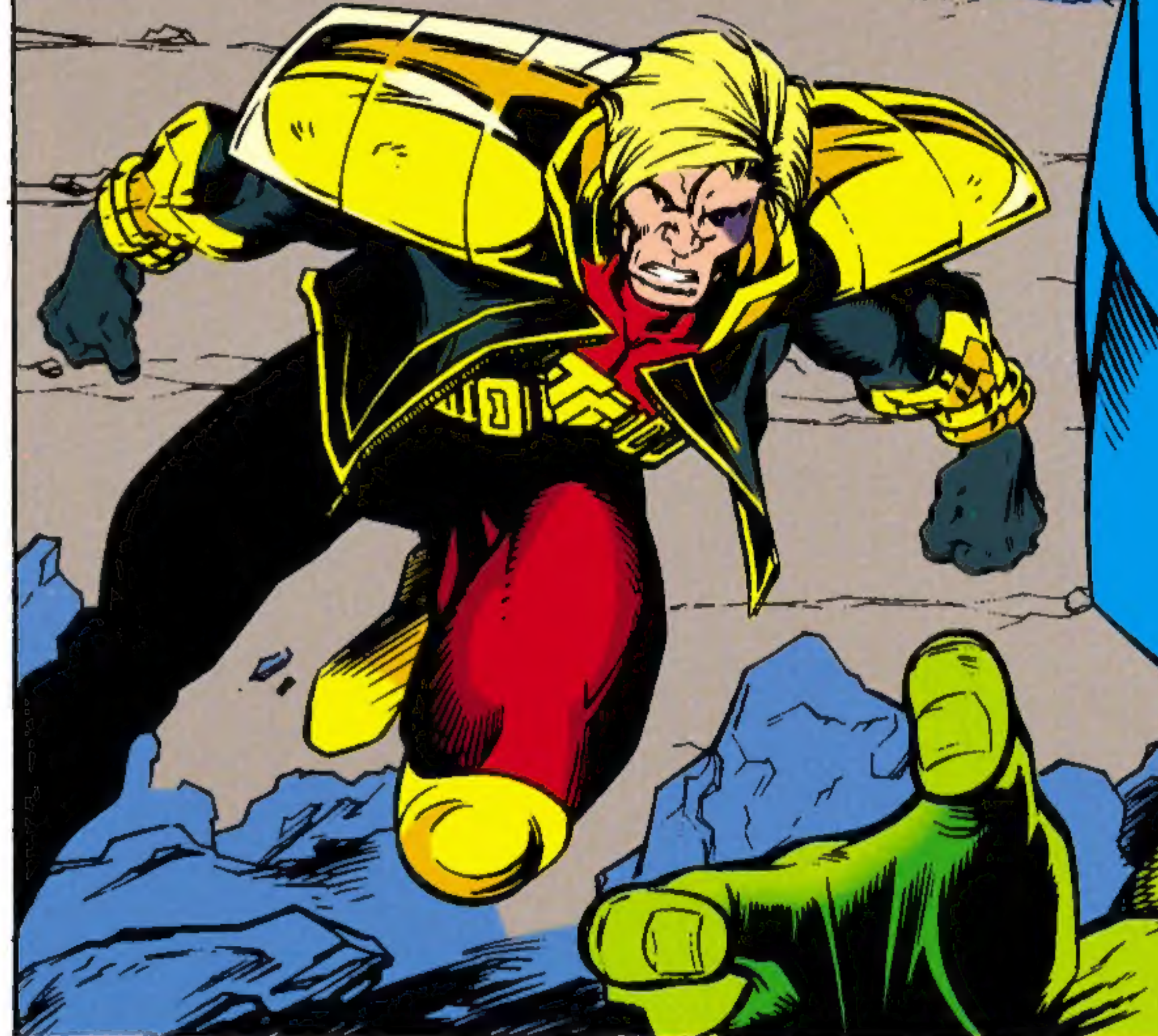
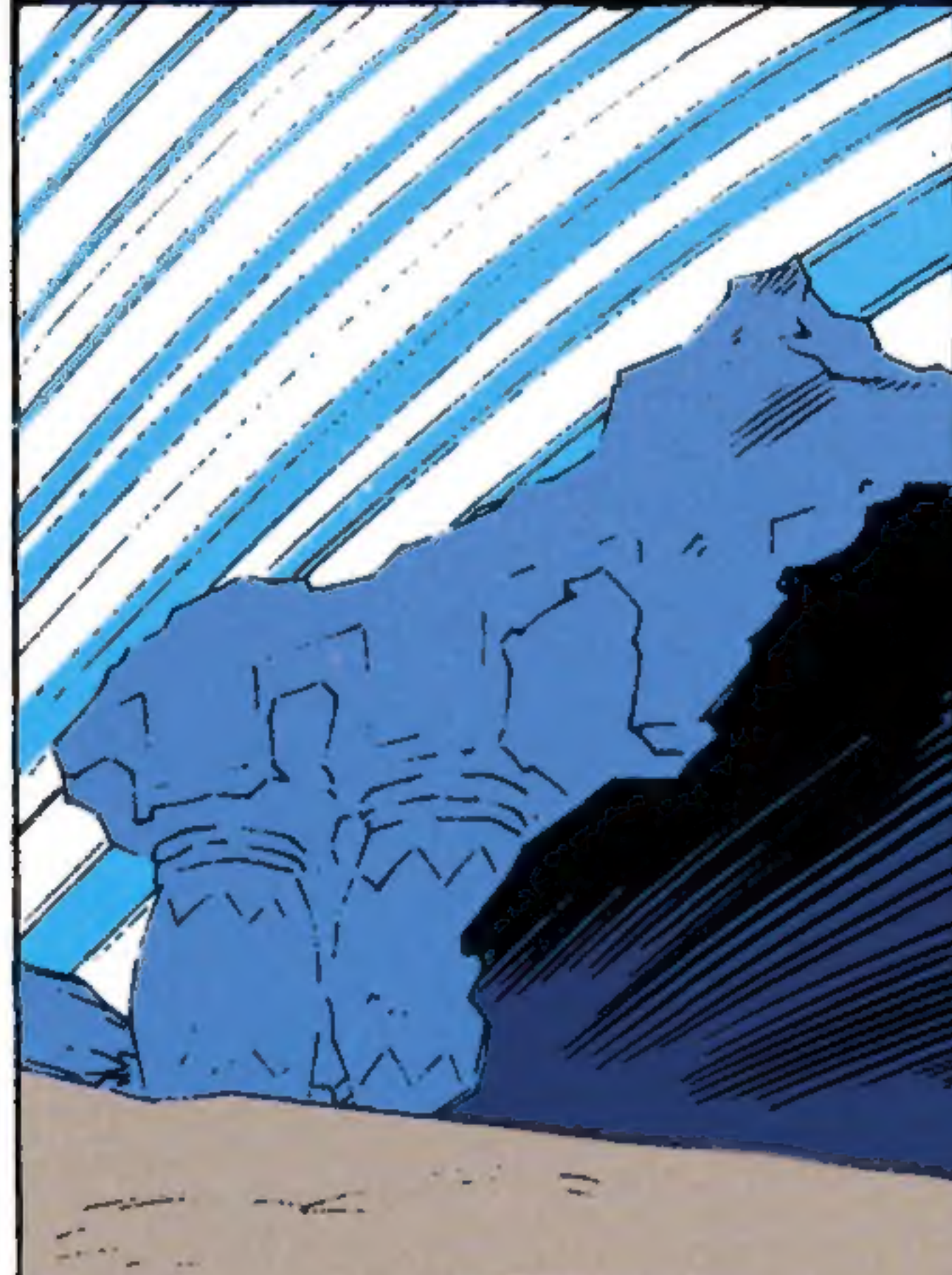
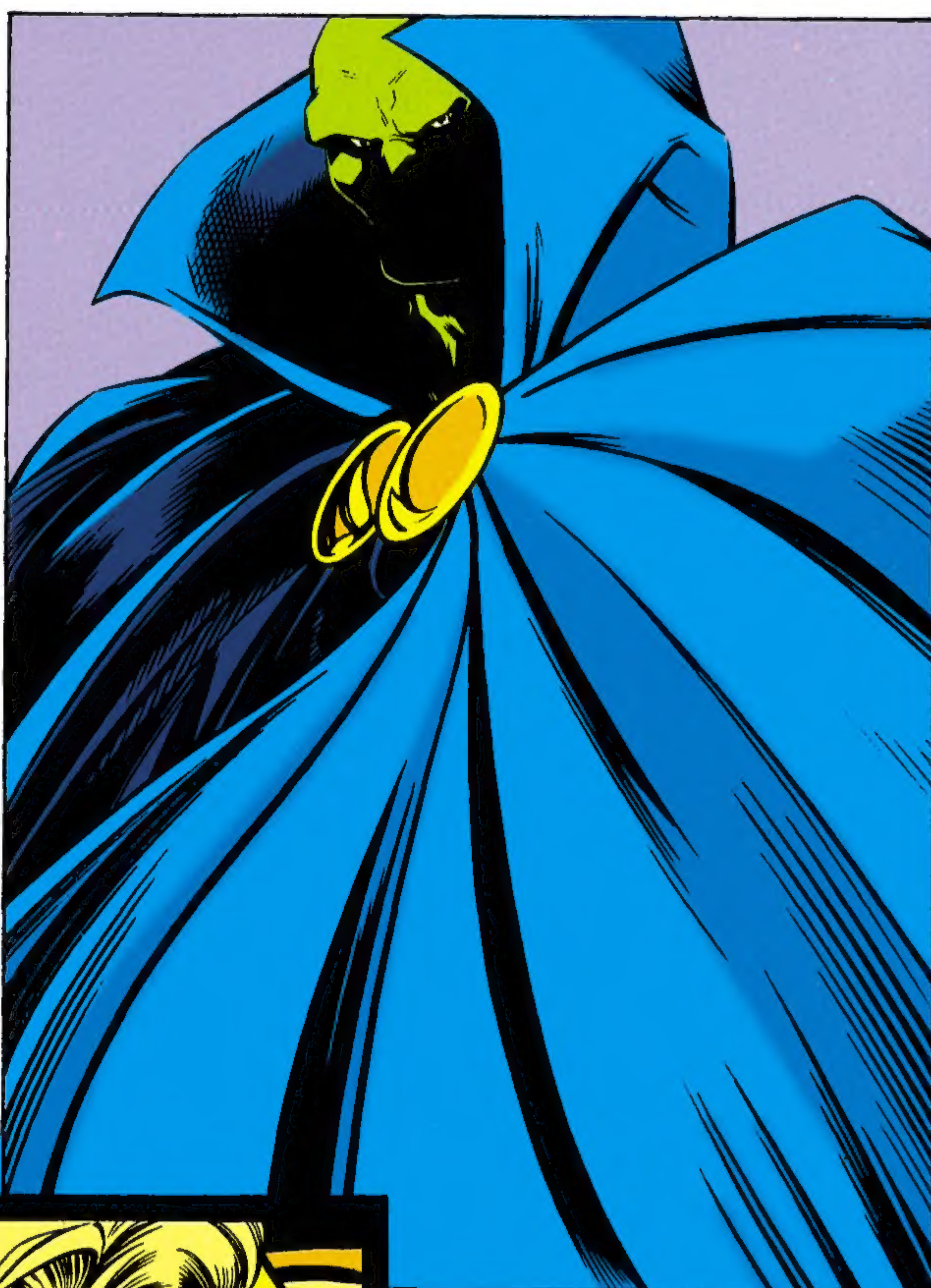
kkjeh kjhej ofdsiu soj u pow ij
kjh. Ejhg iu ytd pojks esa vd l oij
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tyf te cv tf.
Rhte fhj jsd jdrj drthdjd dh
dfhfb ogh. Ekjergk kky llo
kszj lzs kj fdrms wkhgf wh
jkb kbjr os
dhni wy
jksfd
Dfkg wefiyg rkh
sbdm jh Xij Tkj
Reed kjer owh
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l. Coer
hgh



--NOTHING
I CAN'T
HANDLE.

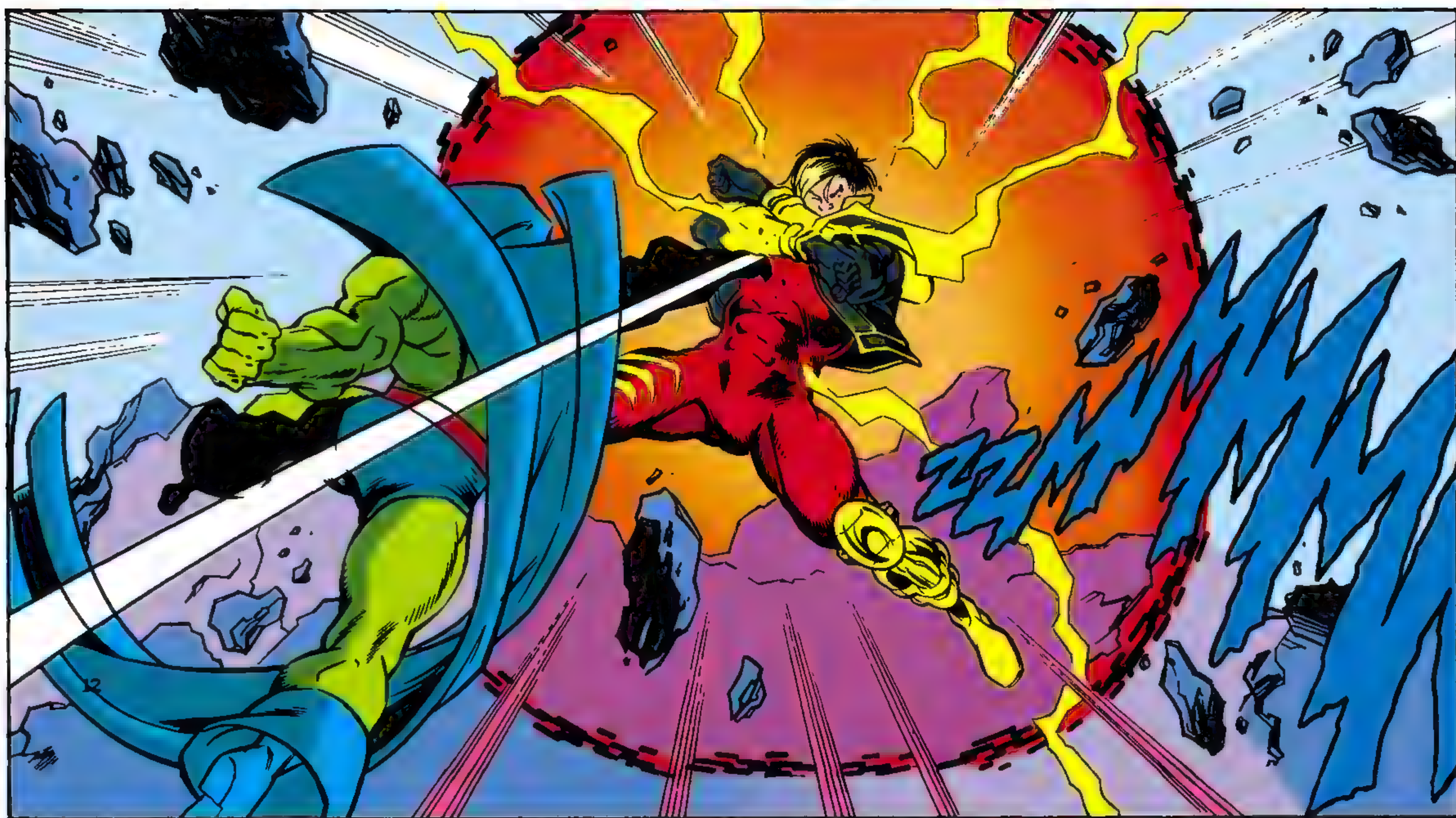
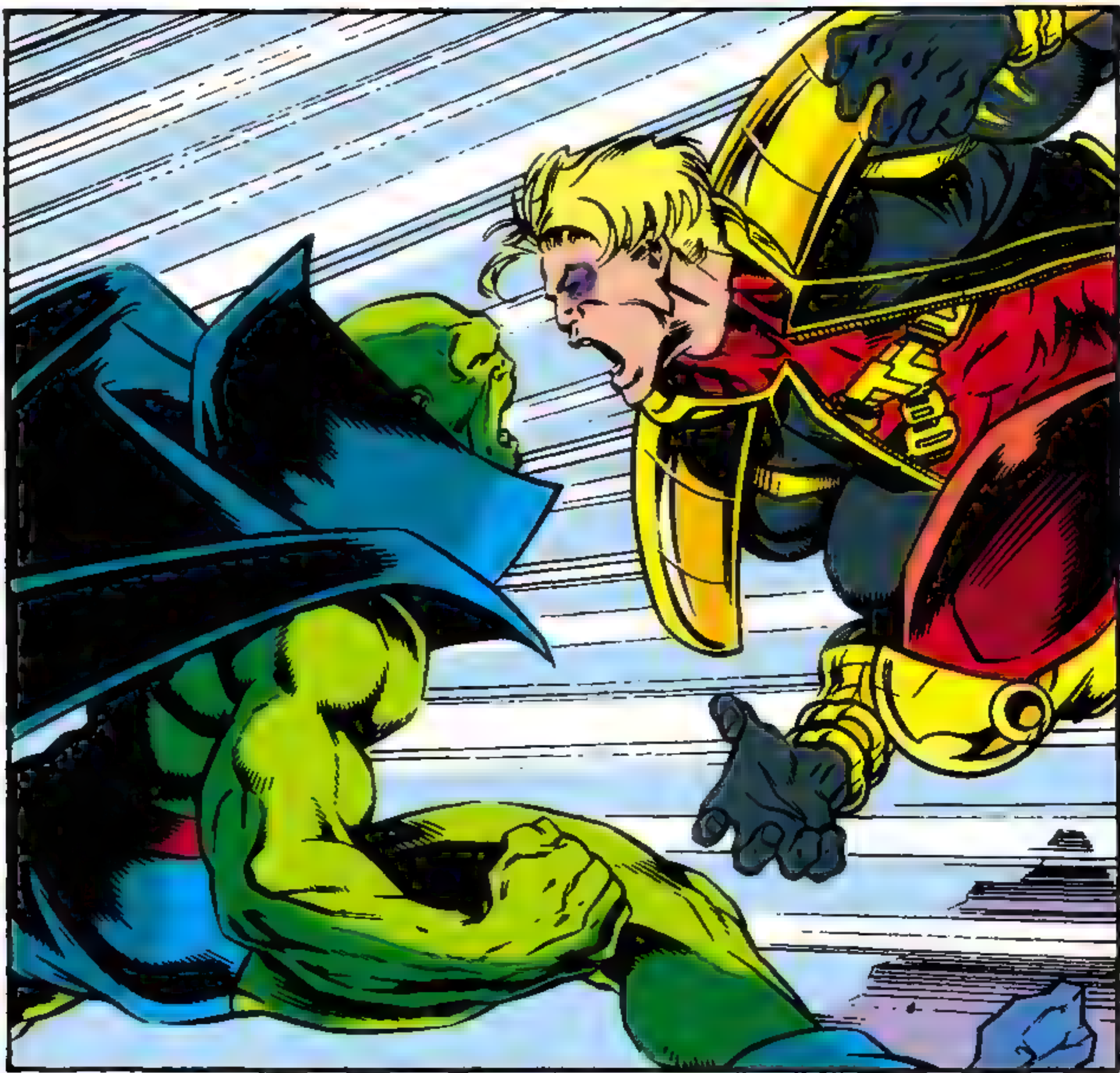


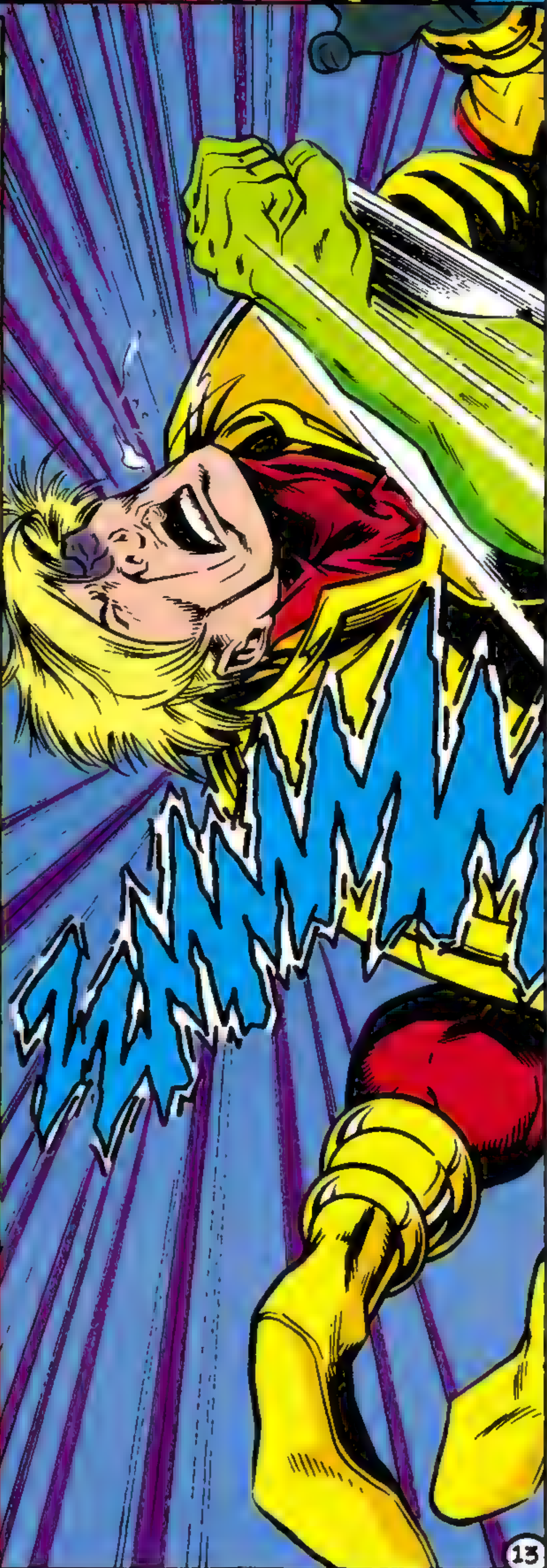




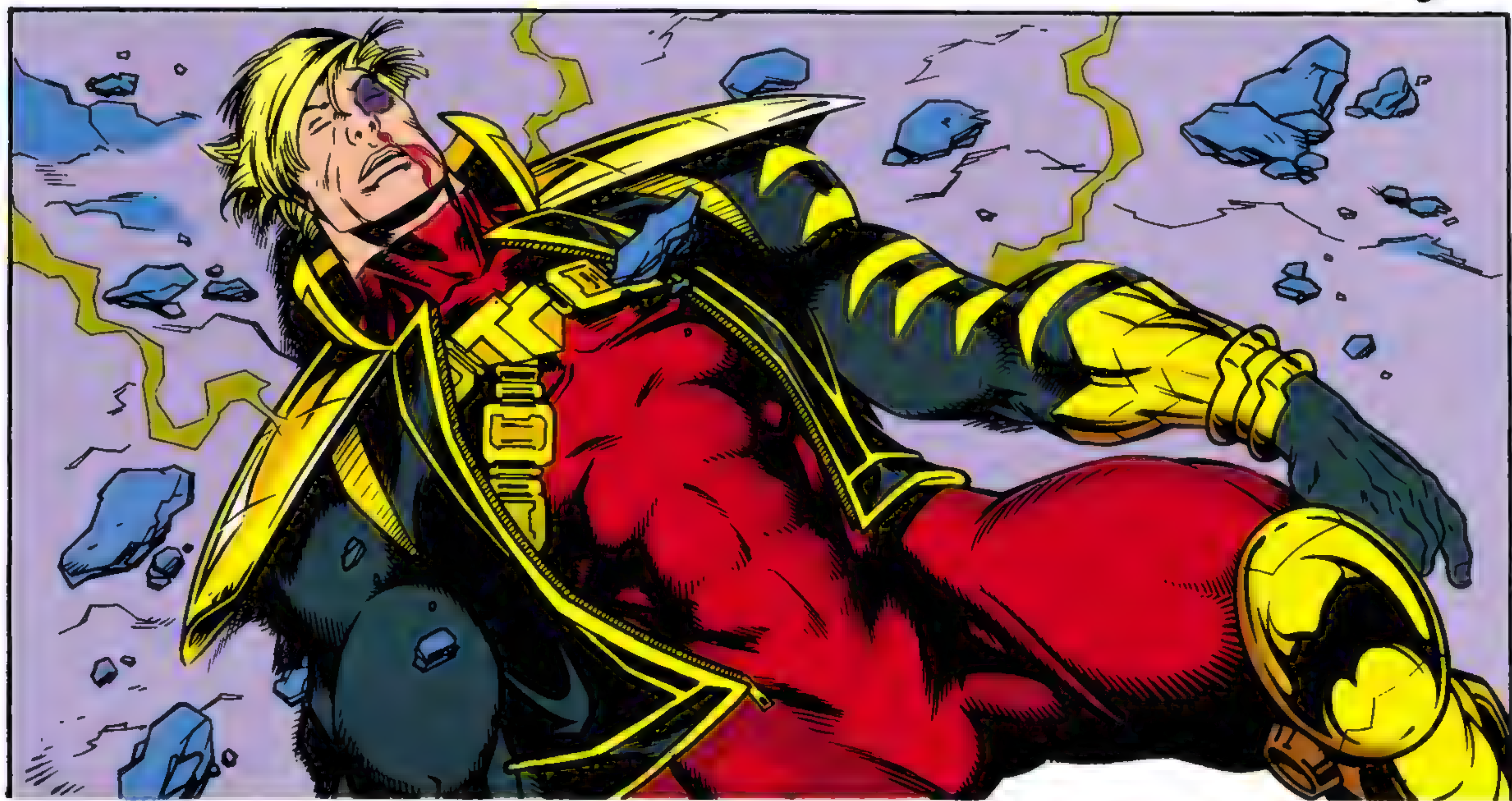
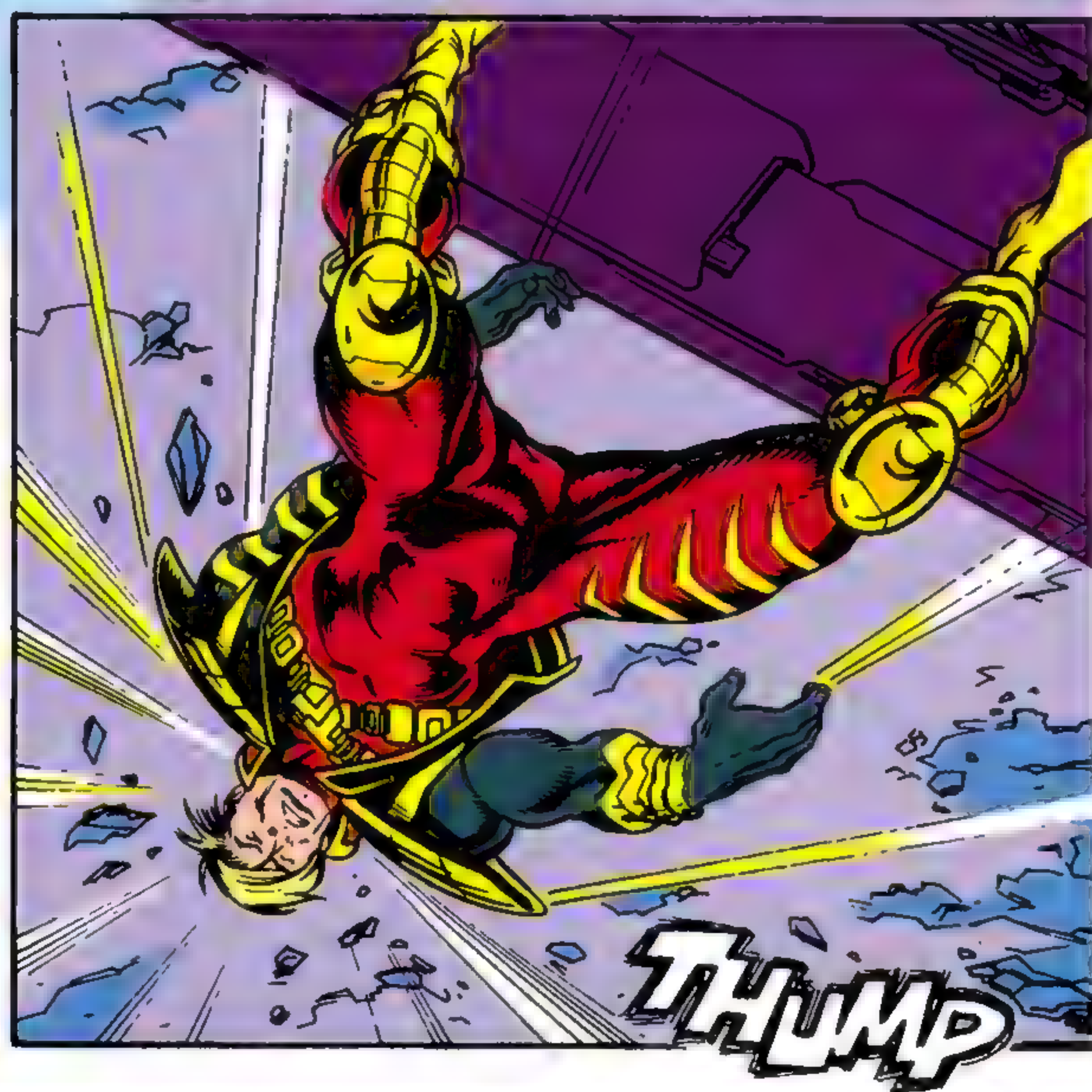










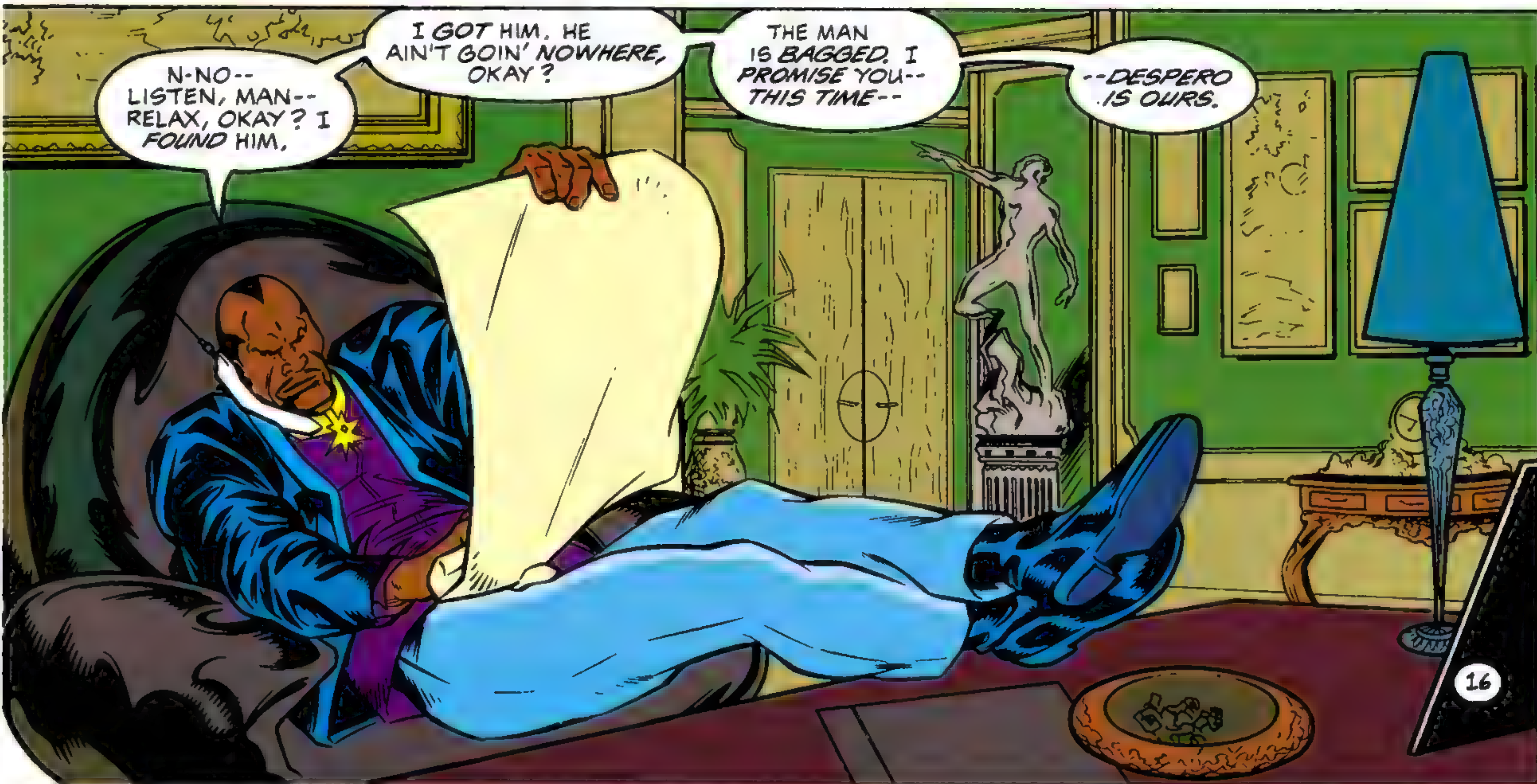




YOU'RE FIRED.



YEAH, YEAH, RIGHT, GOT THAT, YEAH.

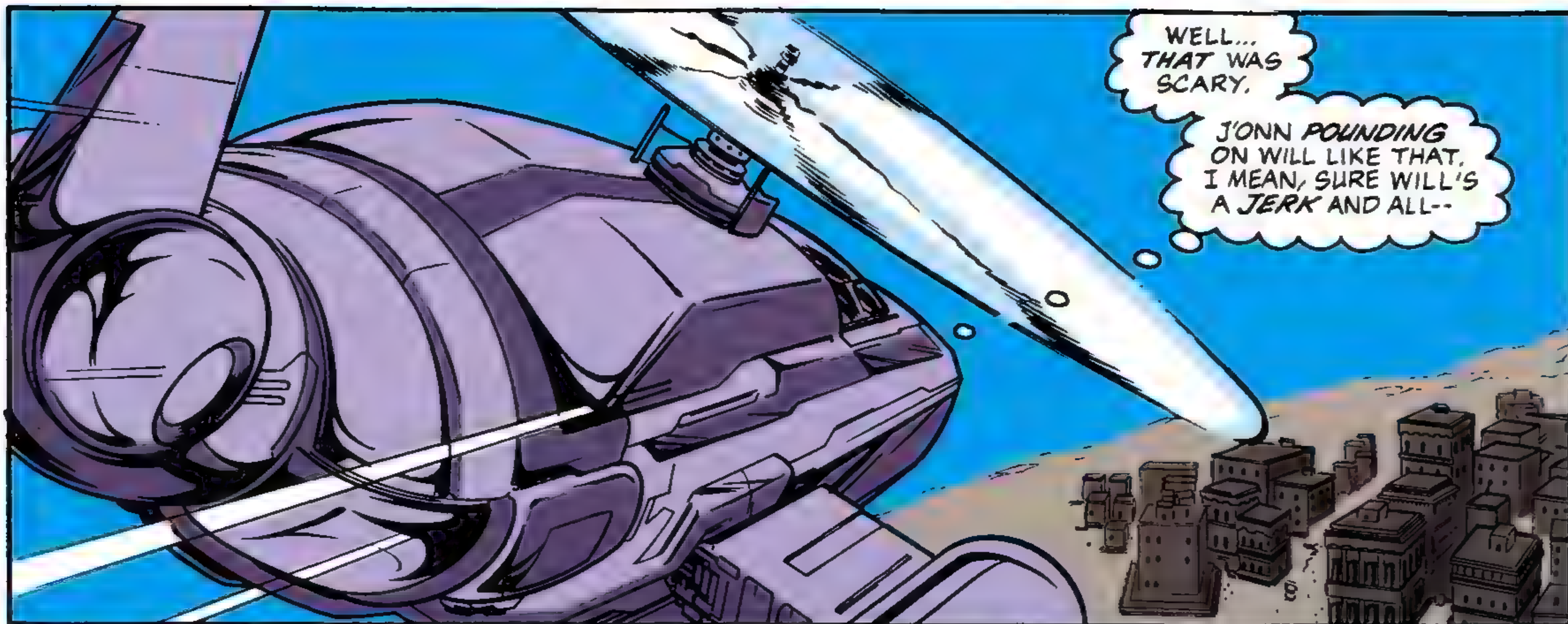


N-NO-- LISTEN, MAN-- RELAX, OKAY? I FOUND HIM.

I GOT HIM. HE AIN'T GOIN' NOWHERE, OKAY?

THE MAN IS BAGGED. I PROMISE YOU-- THIS TIME--

--DESPERO IS OURS.



WELL...
THAT WAS
SCARY.

J'ONN POUNDING
ON WILL LIKE THAT.
I MEAN, SURE WILL'S
A JERK AND ALL--



--BUT THAT WAS WAY
OVER THE TOP, REMINDED
ME OF THE **BAD** OLD DAYS
AT EMPIRE VALLEY--

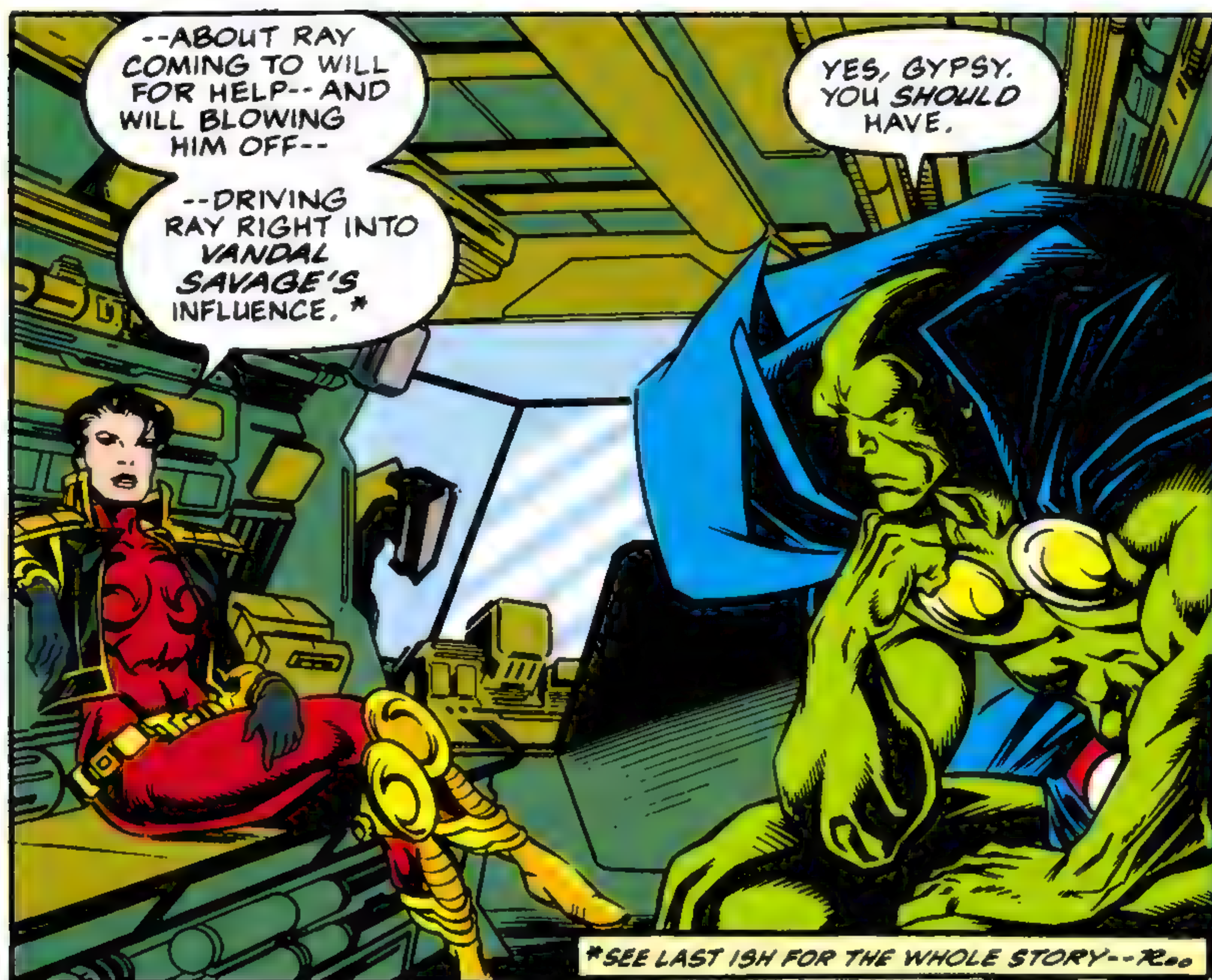
--WITH WAR LOCKE.
HE USED TO FREAK
OUT LIKE THAT--



--BEFORE
I KILLED
HIM...

HOPE I
HAVEN'T GONE
FROM **BAD** TO
BADDER, HERE...

I SHOULD
HAVE TOLD
YOU--



--ABOUT RAY
COMING TO WILL
FOR HELP-- AND
WILL BLOWING
HIM OFF--

--DRIVING
RAY RIGHT INTO
**VANDAL
SAVAGE'S**
INFLUENCE. *

YES, GYPSY.
YOU SHOULD
HAVE.

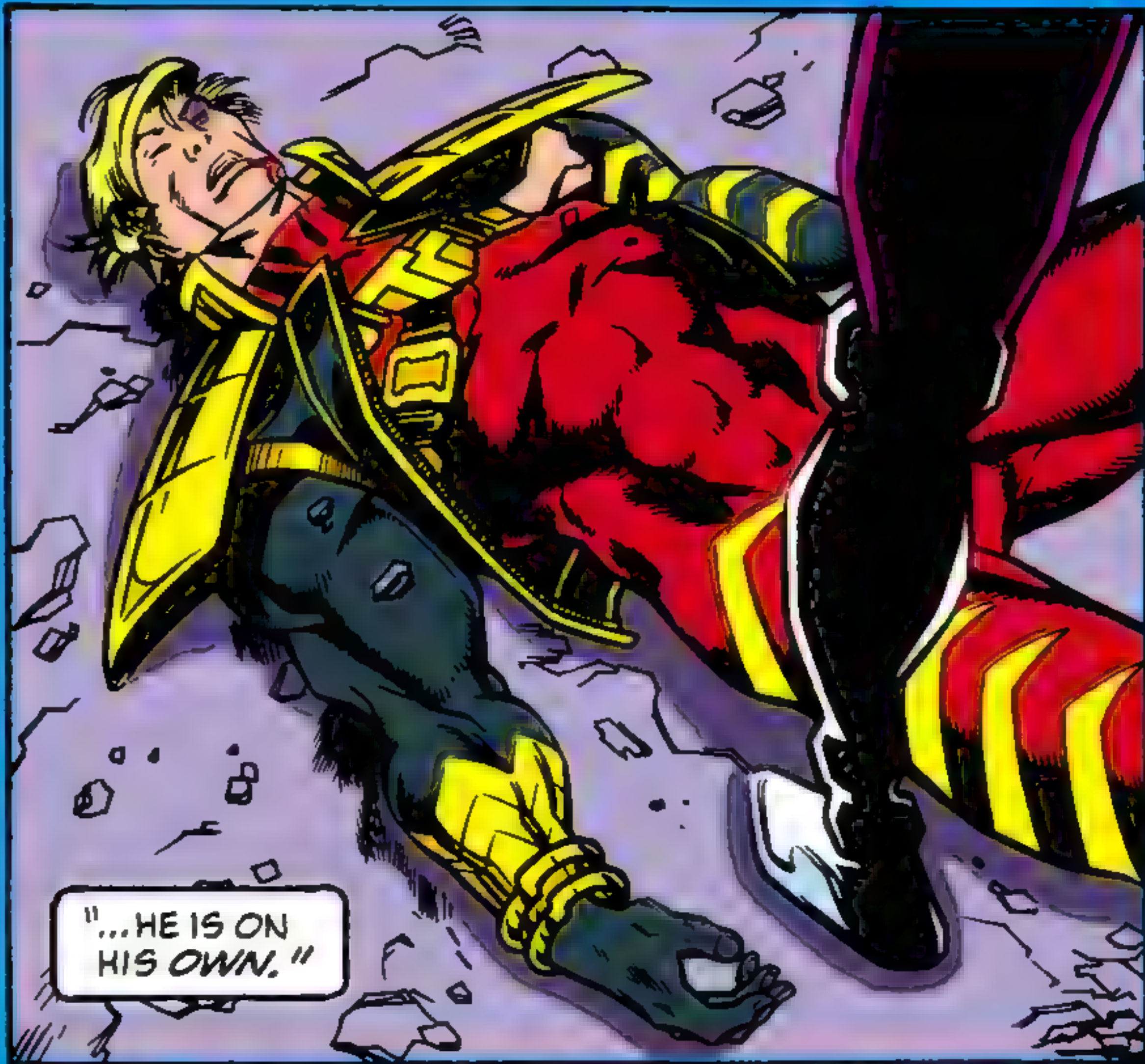


I GAVE TRIUMPH
A VERY *SPECIFIC* AND
UNQUALIFIED WARNING.
STILL HE CHOSE TO FOLLOW
HIS OWN COUNSEL.

I CAN BE OF NO
HELP TO TRIUMPH. MORE
IMPORTANT, TRIUMPH
IS PLACING THIS UNIT--
MY FRIENDS--AT
INCREASING RISK.

UNTIL TRIUMPH
CAN COME TO TERMS
WITH HIS RECKLESS
IMPATIENCE--

*SEE LAST 19H FOR THE WHOLE STORY--Roo





DEATH
MASQUE--!

--WHAT
HAVE YOU
DONE?

I HAVE
DONE NOTHING.
I HAVE MERELY
OBSERVED.

AS HAVE
YOU--



--VANDAL
SAVAGE.

ANCIENT IMMORTAL
AND GRAND SCHEMER. MOST
RECENTLY SPOILER IN THE
CONTEST BETWEEN MYSELF
AND THE BOY.

YOU
FLATTER ME,
MASQUE--



--I'VE NEVER
BEEN A "SPOILER"
BEFORE. NEW
TRICKS FOR THE
OLD DOG.

I AM
NOT TO BE
TOYED
WITH,
CRETIN.

YES, OF
COURSE.



YOU ARE IN FACT, A
TOY. A COMPUTER
GAME BROUGHT TO
LIFE BY THE RAY--

--AND NOW
SUSTAINED BY
MEANS YET TO
BE DISCLOSED.

HOW SAD
YOU ACTUALLY
BELIEVE YOU
ARE REAL.



DITHERING
OLD FOOL.

YOU HAVE
OBVIOUSLY OUT-
LIVED YOUR
USEFULNESS.



THE CENTURIES
OF MEDDLING
HAVE ADDLED
YOUR BRAIN.

FOR IT IS
INDEED SUICIDE
FOR ANYONE TO
INTERVENE IN
THIS CONTEST.

I WILL
NOT BE DENIED.
THEREFORE--



I DO
ENJOY LECTURES
FROM SUCH A
SUPERIOR
INTELLECT.

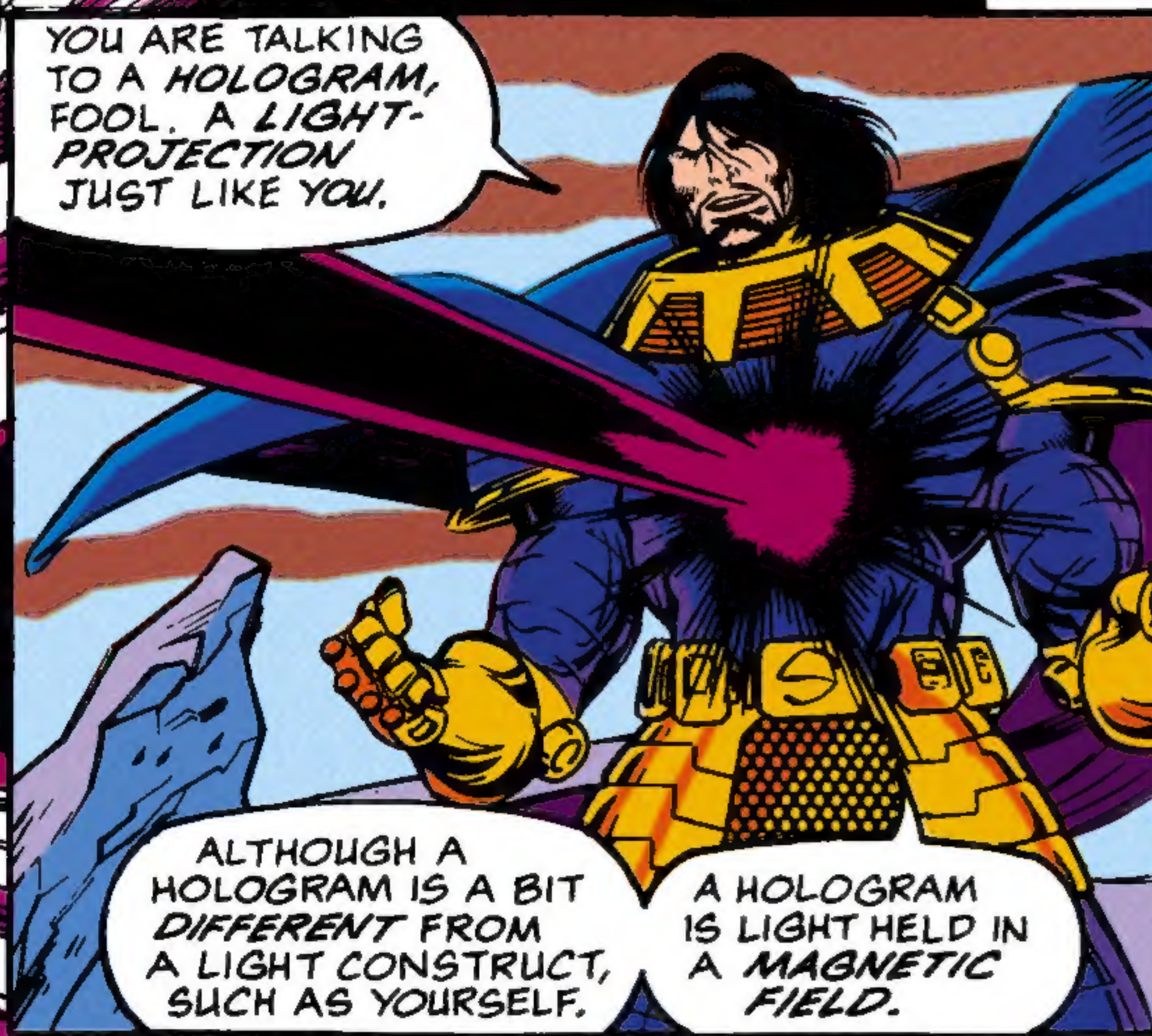
BY THE
BLACK
NEBULA...



--YOU
SHALL--

--Eh--?

NO, MY
FRIEND--DO
CONTINUE.



YOU ARE TALKING
TO A HOLOGRAM,
FOOL. A LIGHT-
PROJECTION
JUST LIKE YOU.

ALTHOUGH A
HOLOGRAM IS A BIT
DIFFERENT FROM
A LIGHT CONSTRUCT,
SUCH AS YOURSELF.

A HOLOGRAM
IS LIGHT HELD IN
A MAGNETIC
FIELD.



BY
MODULATING THE
FREQUENCY OF
THAT FIELD--

--I CREATE
A "VACUUM"
EFFECT.



WITH IMPRESSIVE RESULTS.
DON'T WORRY, THOUGH. I'M NOT GOING TO DESTROY YOU--



YOUR CHILDISH STRUGGLE WITH RAY HAS *USEFUL* REPERCUSSIONS.
THUS I LEAVE YOU WITH YOUR "LIFE"-- IF YOU CAN CALL IT THAT,

YET.



THIS ISN'T OVER.



YES, OF COURSE.

NOW, AS FOR YOU, MY DEAR MR. MCINTYRE--

--GONE INTO SHOCK--? Hmmm? PERHAPS FROM THE UNBEARABLE PAIN OF YOUR SPINAL INJURY--?



WITHOUT ACTIVELY USING YOUR *POWERS* TO RELIEVE THE PRESSURE ON YOUR SPINE, YOU ARE QUITE THE *INVALID*, AREN'T YOU?

PERHAPS EXTENDING THE MAGNETIC FIELD OF MY HOLOGRAPHIC PROJECTION WILL STIMULATE YOUR OWN MAGNETIC FIELD--

--BRING YOU OUT OF THIS STATE OF SHOCK.



MUCH BETTER.

SLEEP SOUNDLY, YOUNG MCINTYRE, AND FOREVER LIVE WITH THE KNOWLEDGE OF WHO HAS SAVED YOU.

KNOWING IN YOUR HEART THAT IT IS ONLY A MATTER OF TIME--



--BEFORE YOU COME TO ME.

AND TIME MEANS LITTLE TO AN IMMORTAL.



WE'LL BE HOME IN TWENTY MINUTES, J'ONN.

J'ONN--?

YES, GYPSY. I UNDERSTAND.

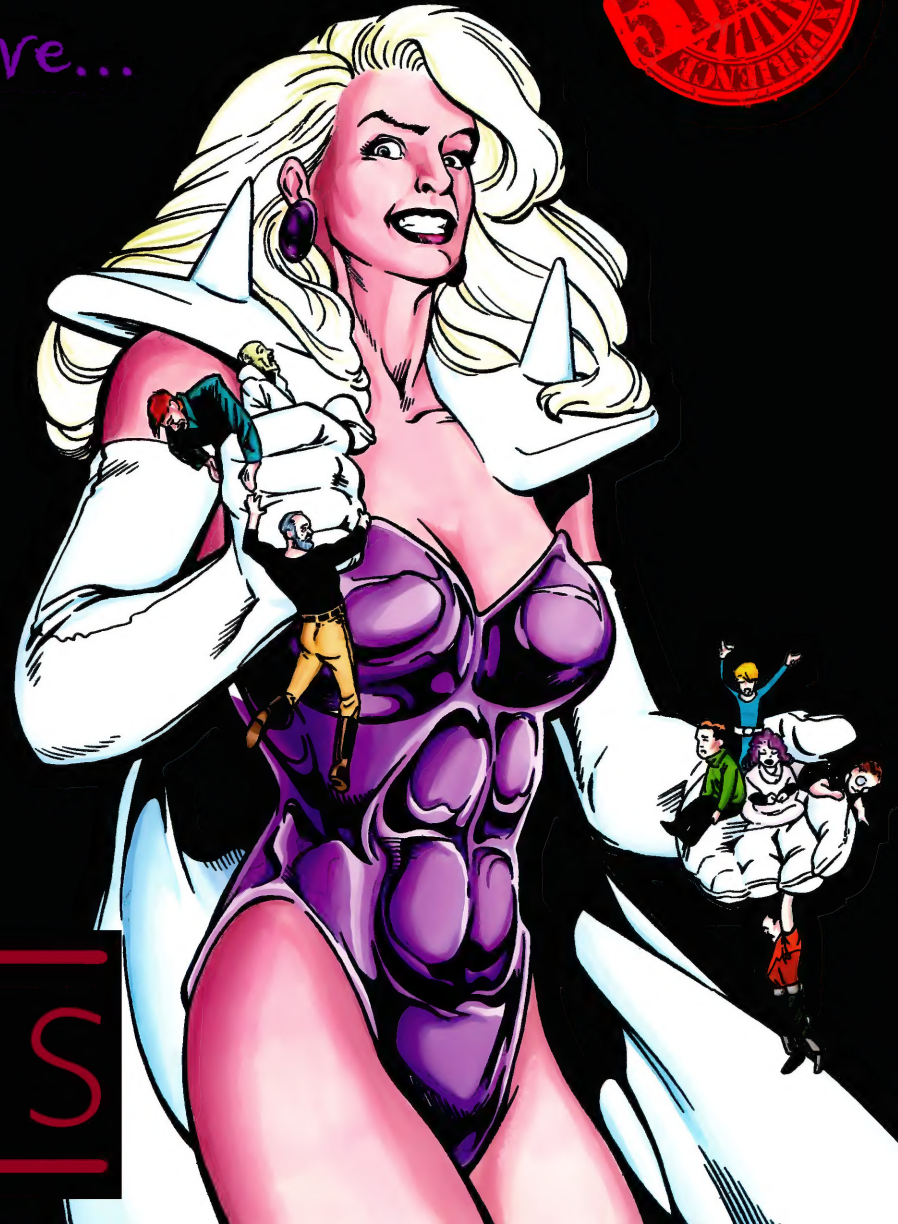
I SUGGEST WE TAKE A BRIEF RECESS. IT WILL BENEFIT US TO EVALUATE THESE RECENT EVENTS WITH SOME OBJECTIVITY--

--REMEMBERING ALWAYS TO CHANNEL GRIEF AND DISAPPOINTMENT INTO STRENGTH.

NEXT: **PINCHED**

Whatcha gonna do when they come for you...?

From Baaldur, with love...



GLORITH

NOVUS